


12 things you can do to be a better kidlit author or illustrator by Kathy Ellen!

1.  Join SCBWI! Connections, Bulletin, fun!
2.  the kind of books you want to write. Lots!
3.

3.	Write	and	DRAW	Keep going! Don't stop at 1 perfect story/image.
	write		DRAW	
	write	or	DRAW	
4. Join Forces! Critique group, find your tribe.
5. Work on your CRAFT! Read books, listen to podcasts!
6. CHALLENGE yourself! PiBoIdMo, 12x12, NaNoWriMo, many more!
7.

7a	Take a course —	reallife or online
	Go to a conference —	big or small!

b Go hear authors/illustrators talk at Indies! Meet your future peers!
8.

8a	TAKE A BREAK!	Put your work aside for a bit.
	b	Read it <u>ALOUD</u> when you take it back out! Revise accordingly!
9. Ask everyone to read your stories. Use feedback to pick top stories.
10. Keep an eye on the dream and BE PATIENT.
11. Don't compare yourself w/others! Instead use the mantra: "My story, My journey."
12.

12.	a.	Ask for help from people who've done it before
	b.	Say THANK YOU to people who help you, authors and illustrators of the books you love, pretty much everyone!